

649. Punch *in* the West. Punch was brought to Italy In the fifteenth century.¹ Polichinelle, as developed in France, is distinctly French. The model is Henri IV. The hump is an immemorial sign of the French *badin-h-farces*. " Polichinelle seems to me to be a purely national (French) type, and one of the most spontaneous and vivacious creations of French fantasy." ² The puppet play of Punch and Judy has enjoyed immense popularity in western Europe. The Faust legend has been developed by the puppets.³ With the improvements in the arts people became more sophisticated. The puppets were left to children and to the simplest rural population, not because the mores improved, but because people were treated to more elaborate entertainments and the puppets became trivial. Punch is now a blackguard and criminal, who is conventionally tolerated on account of his antiquity. He is not in modern mores and is almost unknown in the United States. He is generally popular in southern Europe. To the Sicilians " a puppet play is a book, a picture, a poem, and a theater all in one. It teaches and amuses at the same time/' ⁴ Then it still is what it has been for three thousand years.

650. Resistance of the clmrcti to the drama. The council in the palace of Trullo, at Constantinople in 6Q2,⁵ adopted canons forbidding clerics to attend horse races or theatrical exhibitions, or to stay at weddings after play began, also panto-mimes, beast combats, and theatrical dances, also heathen festivals, vows to Pan, bacchanal rites, public dances by women, the appearance of men dressed as women, or of women dressed

as men, and the use of comic, tragic, or satyric masks. All the Dionysiac rites had been forbidden long before. These canons prove that those rites were still observed. These clerical rules and canons do not represent the mores and they never overruled the mores at Constantinople. They only bear witness to what existed in the mores late in the seventh century, and

¹ Reich, *Der Mimus*, 669, 673, 676.

² Magnin, *Marionettes*, 121-122. ^z *Ibid.*, 343.

⁴ Alec-Tweedie, *Sunny Sicily*, 173, and Chap. XL

⁶ Hefele, *Concliengesch.*, III, 304.